Elmira 18th 1864

My dear Mrs

The battle is raging hot with us. Everywhere where I meet abolitionists this distinction question comes up. It places some in a very good predicament. Until within a few days Thos Earle has been the only one who contends for the duty of stockholders under certain conditions, but now we have several who take it. they are compelled to for the sake of consistency. He also has been the only who contends that we may do evil that good may come. that is, what the world call evil he does not. this is his quibble. He is an ingenious sheerdevising opponent, in debate, but in a written controversy where one has time to think his full sense can easier be shown. He has dribbled out his main objections for the standard and unless the Antedote goes with the poison, it will injure the cause, for the present. He handed it to me to read to forward, which I have promised to do, saying I would have it out in time to have it answered in the same paper. I send it to you with this object. I beg that you will do it remembering that they are his sincere opinions that many hold them in common with him. I want you answers to be

44

as possible, including in it as many of the points of the glorious question, as his article will allow directly or indirectly. You will understand why I want you to do this when I tell you that I mean to have some 10 or 1200 extra copies struck off for distribution among our people. I have had multitudes of conversations about this question since the Annual Meeting & find that the true, & important part of the law do not comprehend it. I lament to say that they do not seem to appreciate the power of moral influence, this I am inclined to think grows partly out of a desire to be doing something, (& voting, to the eye looks like doing something. When in the inward eye, the eye of faith were open they would see it was as nothing, (I) and partly from a negligence in giving the question a candid examination. Will you remember this is your answer? Our Annual meeting takes place on the 19th inst & unless the people think of this question before they come up there they will not be in a fit state to decide. I want to see you how strong my desire is that our people may see this question in its true light.

seen more the circumstances

Thos Earl is doing what he can to oppose it. He brings up wrong views in his conversation & his writings. He must not only show where he is wrong, but what is right. He contends that it is absurd to adopt any principle that we cannot carry out, this would prevent us doing anything, or even taking a first step. He condemns us for not carrying out our principle. Now admitting that does not prove us wrong in the first step, which he refuses to take with us & opposes us for taking but ~~proves~~ the rather encourages us to go further. But then comes an idea that I have long entertained, that altho' the Anti Slavery platform is broad enough to let any one stand upon who in his heart hates Slavery & loves Liberty, and is capable of carrying out anti Slavery principles to the accomplishment of our ~~the~~ object. Yet it ~~does~~ is too narrow to carry out to their fullest extent the principles upon which we build, for they are sufficient for the overthrow of all evil. Now upon this platform Thos Earl in his article is discussing question not directly effecting the object we have in view.

I hope you have sufficient time during the session of your ~~plans~~ I want to know if you will answer it Soon! Not later than for the next Standard ~~by any one~~ On any account. I want it earlier

June 14 E. P. Dain

As soon as possible after I have gone to press cannot you send say strike off several copies of it & send some that I may see how many I should like and all this ought to be done by Tuesday that I might send on to him the next day for what I want. The number of copies I will take & distribute will be in proportion to my admiration of the address & the number of persons to whom I can send it. You do interest me of the Cause induces me to speak thus freely.

Where is the pledge spoken of at the Annual Meeting? Why is not in circulation?

Where is the address spoken of in you late Boston meeting? You heart will be made glad by the next Freeman. How much more a Freeman than it has ever been for Keep firing upon us. Let your Cannonade continue, incessantly, do not stop until we capitulate or fly.

My best regards to you sisters & your father in Law Jamis. Mothers health is improving.

Yours truly Edmund

Can you influence W. Phillips + and the Hutchinson to come to our meeting. Rhein & Spencer I will pay if Beaumont get help.

+ He cannot come he says

Mail you a letter for Boy Wayne you will have this